

Establishment and Implementation of Comprehensive Training for Laboratory Capacity Building in Central Asia

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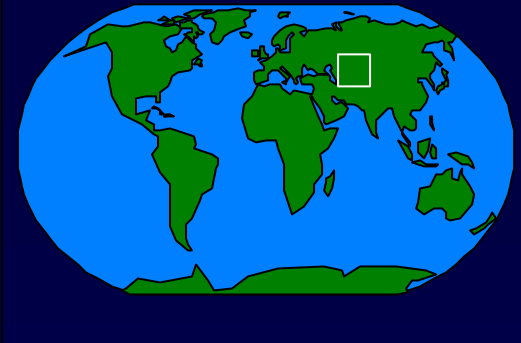
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World Fact-book

Area: total: 3,994,400 sq km

Climate: dry continental to polar in high Tien Shan; subtropical in Fergana Valley; temperate in foothill zone.

Environment issues: water pollution; many people get their water directly from streams

Population: 55,431,390. Children 0-14 years: 36%.

Birth rate: 22.03 births/1,000 population (1998)

Infant mortality rate: 58-113 deaths/1,000 live births

Economic - poor, countries with predominantly agricultural economy. Several countries in the region reach with national resources. Poor infrastructure limited countries income.

Illicit drugs: limited government eradication program; increasingly used as transshipment point for illicit drugs



Countries of Central Asia Laboratory Service Limitations

- Absence of national quality assurance system for quality standards
 - Lack of cadre of qualified laboratory specialists
 - Limited resources
 - Outdated facilities and equipment
 - Absence of Quality system for reagents used
- Absence of principles for internal (IQC) and external (EQA/PT) laboratory quality control
- Absence of continuous postgraduate education for laboratory specialists

Consecutive testing of the serum sample from a single hepatitis B patient

(10 aliquots; One month period; Almaty City Laboratory, Kazakhstan)

Markers/samples	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Anti-HAV IgM	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
HBsAg	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+
Anti-HBs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anti-HBc IgM	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-
Anti-HBc	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HBeAg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anti HBe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anti-HCV IgM	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+
Anti-HCV	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
Anti-HCV Core	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anti-HCV NS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anti-HDV IgM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Anti HDV Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Anti-HEV	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Anti-HGV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(CDC Atlanta Lab. Testing data - HBsAg pos; IgM anti-HBc pos; IgM anti-HAV neg; anti-HCV neg)

GOAL

- Establishing and implementation of comprehensive laboratory training to develop quality assurance program focusing on laboratory diagnostic of HIV and viral hepatitis

Objectives and Methods

Develop Knowledge

- To institute training system for theoretical and practical aspects of Quality assurance for employers of laboratory service network
 - basic QA training course
 - Apply Advanced QA Training course

Improve Skills

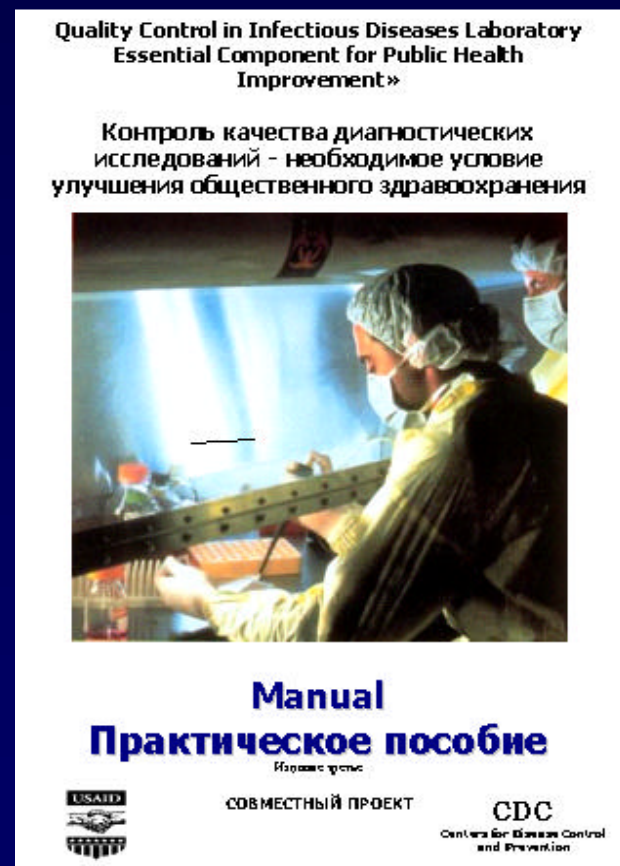
- To establish of reference-laboratories – QA centers for development and implementation
 - Normative standards
 - Biological standards
- Re-equipment of the leading laboratories on the Republican and Oblast levels
- Implementation quality control test-kits

Increase competence

- Monitoring of test performance quality by implementation
 - Internal quality control program
 - External quality assessment /Proficiency Testing programs

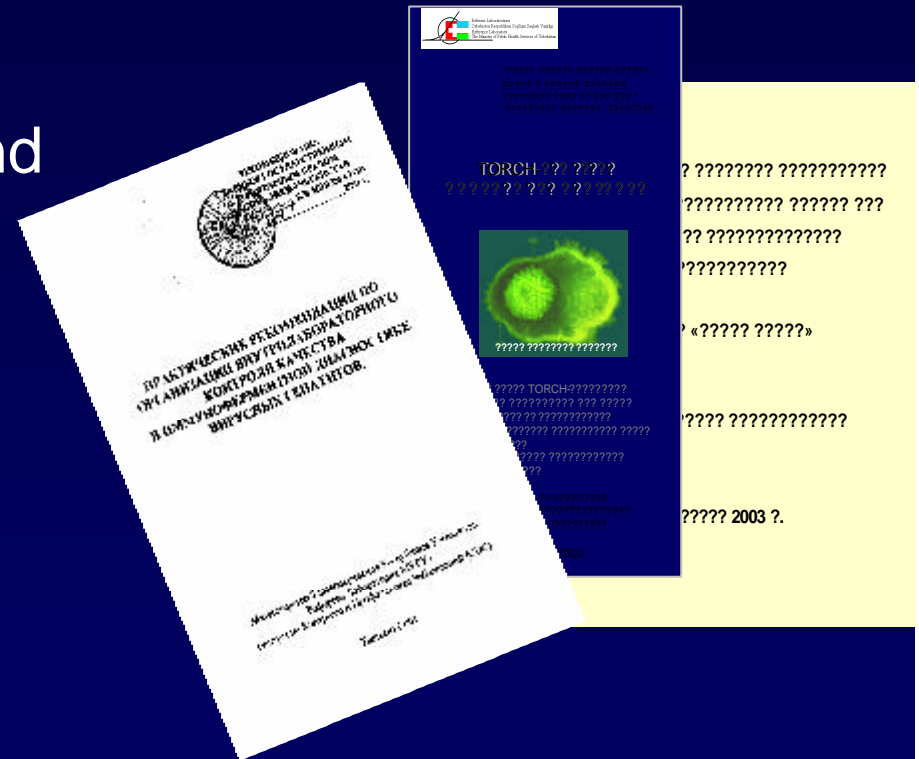
Knowledge

- Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) manuals was developed for trainings support
- 23 QA training were provided for 461 participants from different countries of CAR AIDS centers
 - Sanitarian surveillance centers
 - Blood Donor Centers
 - Infectious diseases hospitals
 - Private laboratories
- Lecturing in quality control have been included to workshops for epidemiologists and practitioners in Central Asia



Reference laboratories

- ♦ Reference laboratories for HIV and viral hepatitis were established in four states of Central Asia and their responsibilities for implementation QA programs were approved by MOH
 - ♦ Kyrgyzstan (1998)
 - ♦ Kazakhstan (2000)
 - ♦ Uzbekistan (1999)
 - ♦ Turkmenistan (2000)
- ♦ Develop, distribute, implement QA policy (Prikaz, Rules, Guidelines, Manuals)
- ♦ Implement test-kits control on the national level (Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan,



EQUIPMENT

- ◆ Forty one sets of ELISA equipment and supplies were purchased in 2004

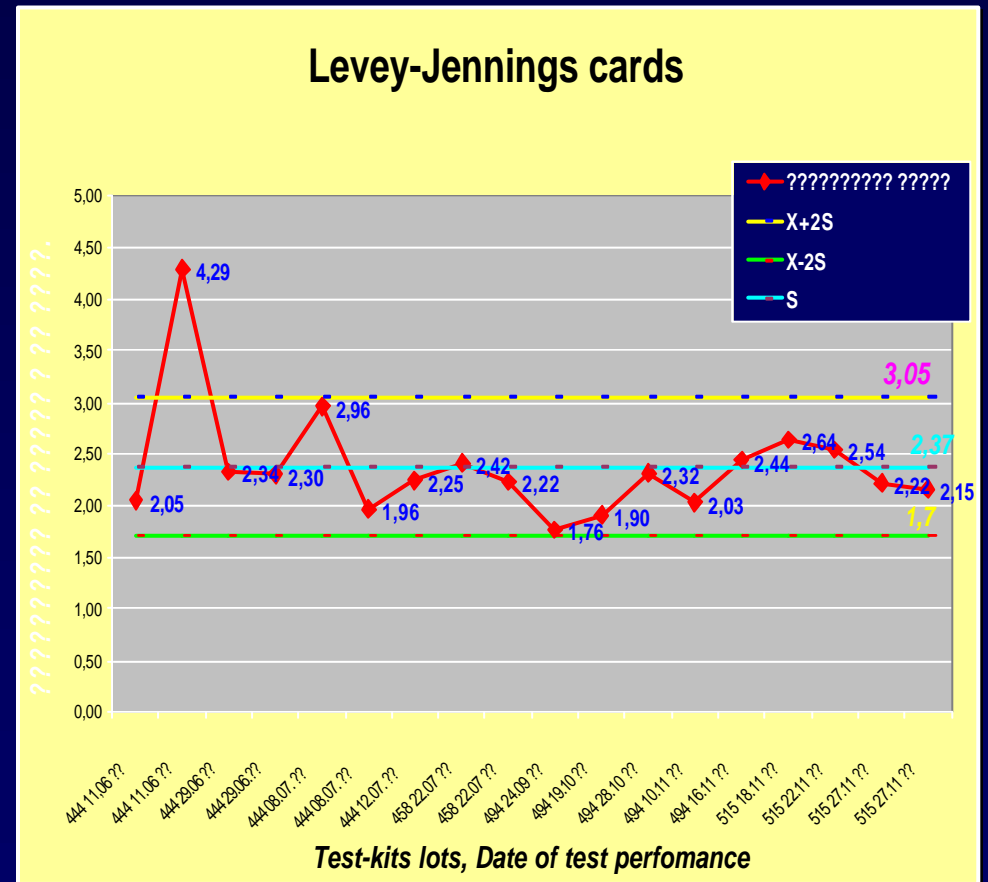


Process of re-equipping

- the list of equipment with it's specifications was created
- technical assistance for installation and initial calibration was provided
- mechanisms for maintenance, service, and repair was set up

Internal quality control

- Internal quality control program implementation
 - Select specimens, create reference panels
 - Evaluate control results daily and over time
 - Establish and use acceptance criteria



Pilot Proficiency Testing programs in CAR

- In Kazakhstan anti HIV reference panel with 6 samples (3 anti-??? positive and 3 anti-HIV negative) were used. 100% accurate results of test performance could achieved .
 - 8 % (2/24 laboratories) in 1998
 - 75 % (18/24 laboratories) in 2001
- In Uzbekistan anti-HCV reference panel with 8 samples (6 anti-HCV positive and 2 anti-HCV negative) was used. 100 % accuracy of test performance could archived
 - 0 % (0/19 laboratories) In 2000
 - 17 % (4/23 laboratories) in 2001

Current PT programs in CAR

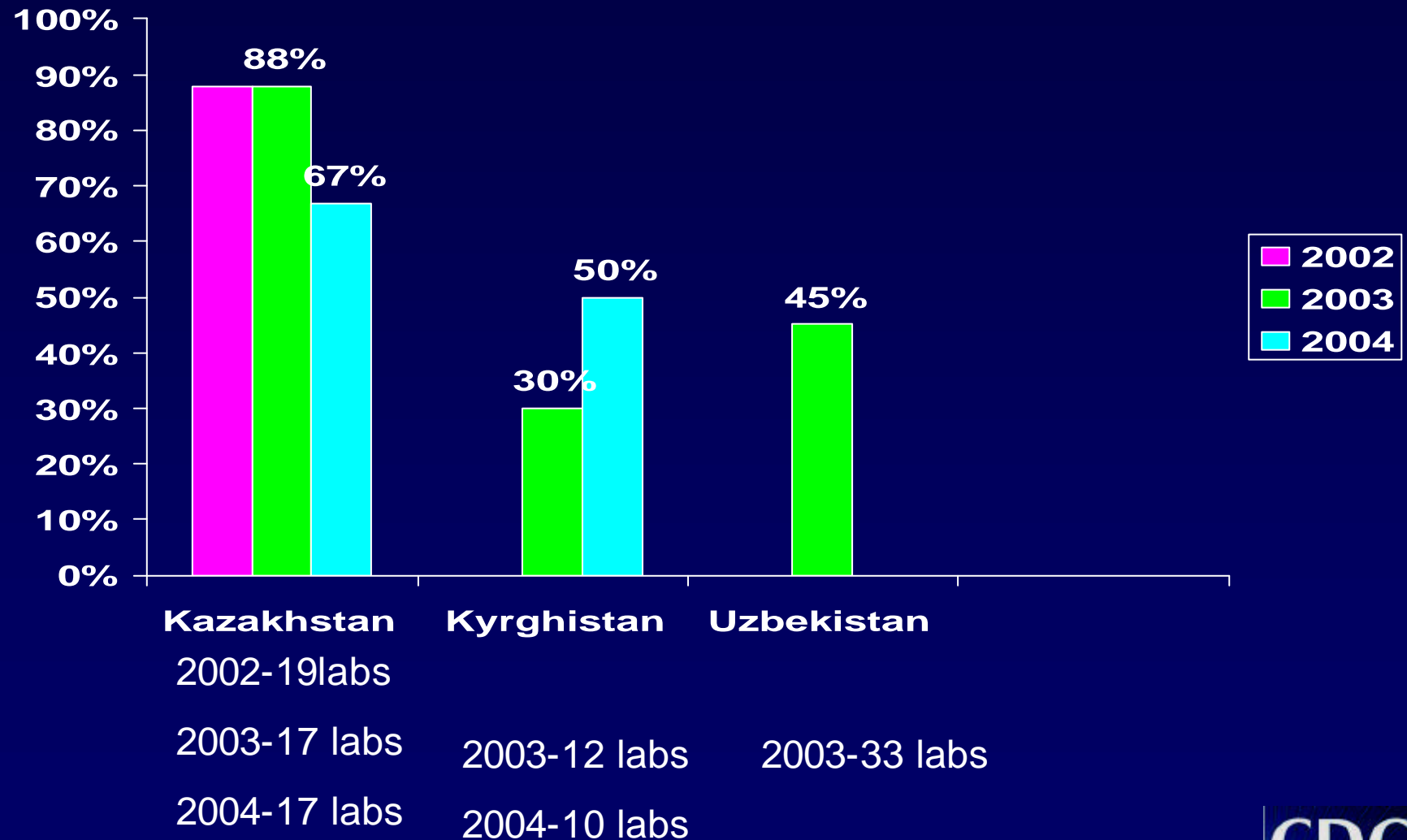
- WHO compliant multi-reference national panels with serological markers of HIV, HBV and HCV infections were created and used in **Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan** since 2002
 - *[Requirements and Guidance for External Quality Assessment Schemes for Health Laboratories, WHO/DIL/LAB/99.2]*

Design of Multi-reference pattern

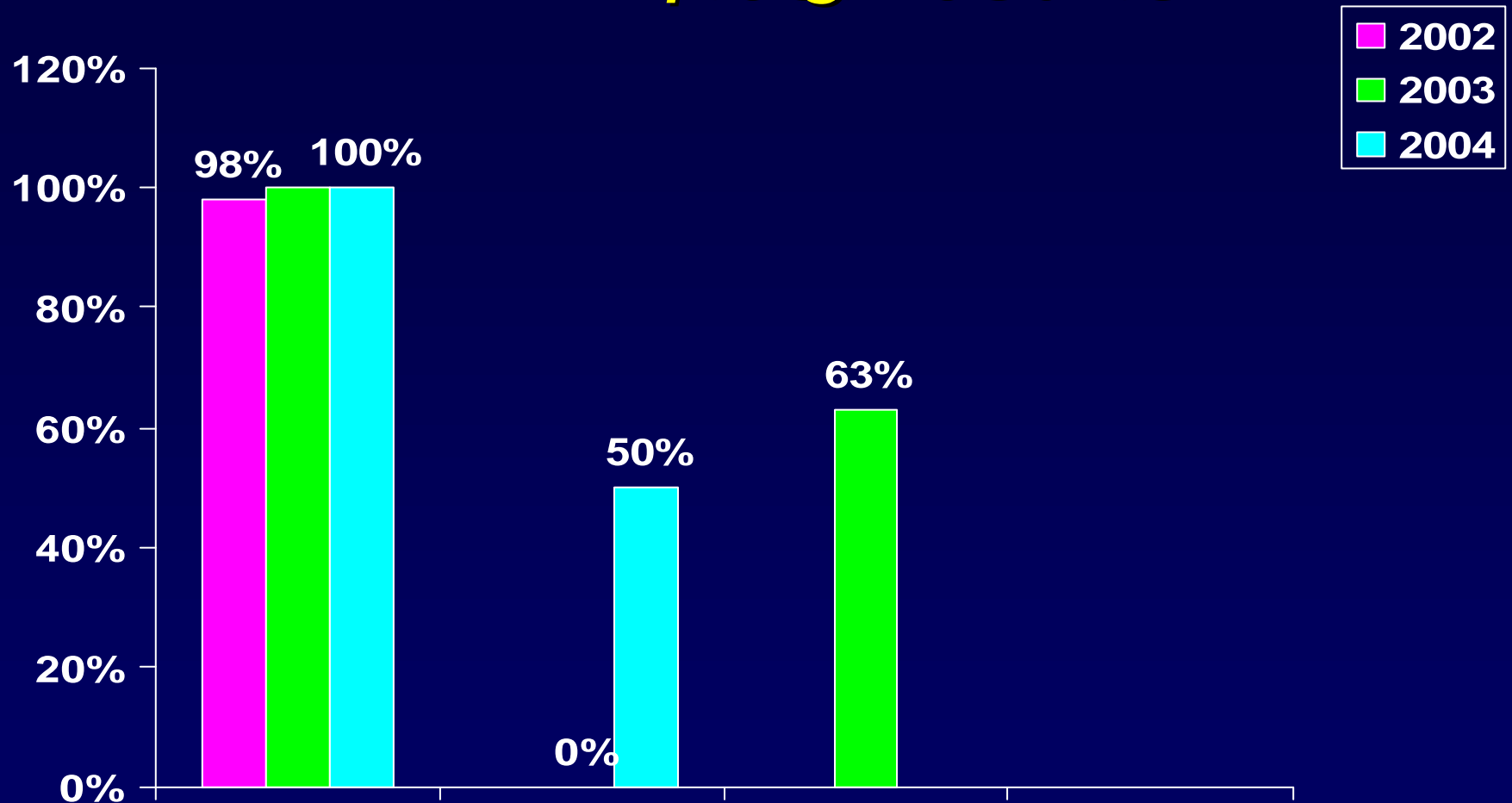
- There are 8 specimens in RP.
- Every specimen was tested with test kits, recommended by WHO
 - "Ortho HIV1/HIV2 Ab-Capture",
 - "Ortho HCV 3.0", "Ortho-HBsAg" (Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, USA),
 - "Genscreen HIV1-2 Ag-Ab",
 - "Monolisa HCV",
 - "Monolisa AgHBs" (BioRad, France).
- All the specimens stored at -20 °C and transported at 2-8 °C.

# of sample	Type of marker
1	Anti-HIV high-active (OD/OD crit. =7,2-14,5)
2	Anti-HIV Moderate-active (OD/OD crit. =4,9-5,5)
3	Anti-HIV low-active (OD/OD crit. =2,3-2,9)
4	Anti-HCV Moderate-titered (OD/OD crit. =2,5-3,5)
5	Anti-HCV high-titered (OD/OD crit. =5,1-5,6)
6	HBsAg (5 ng/ml)
7	HBsAg (1 ng/ml)
8	HBsAg (0,25 ng/ml)

Anti-HIV PT programs results



Anti-HIV PT programs results



Kazakhstan

2002-19 labs

2003-17 labs

2004-17 labs

Kyrgyzstan

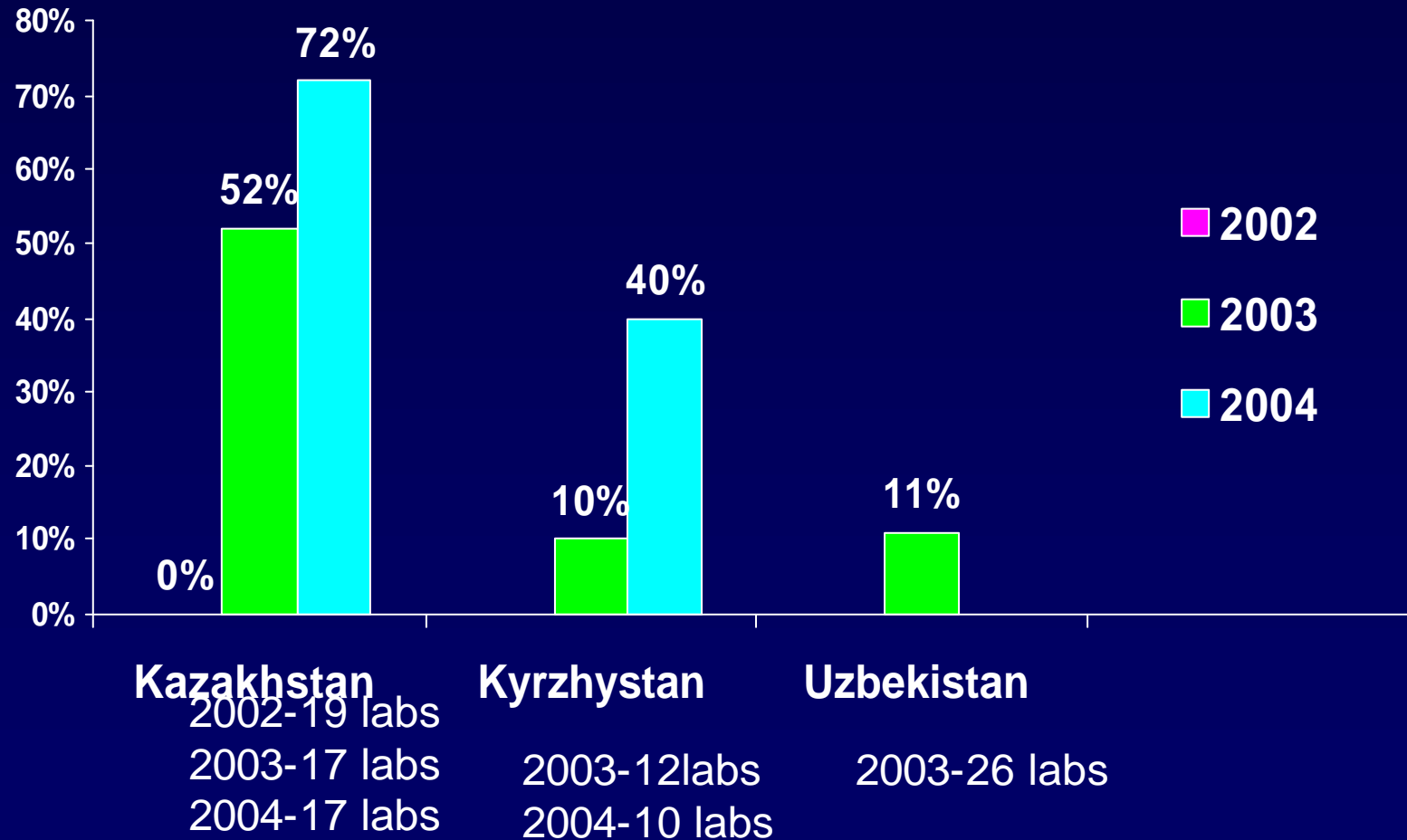
2003-12 labs

2004-10 labs

Uzbekistan

2003-16 labs

HBsAg PT programs results



International Proficiency Testing programs participation

- Model Performance Evaluation Program for anti-HIV-1 testing (Department of Laboratory System, CDC Atlanta)
 - 17/19 laboratories of CAR were awarded in 2004
- Proficiency testing program for anti-HIV-1 dried blood spots testing (Department of Laboratory System, CDC Atlanta)
 - 8/8 laboratories of CAR were awarded in 2004

Conclusions (1)

The training module to establish QA/QC principles in the region has been developed

Reference Laboratories serving as quality assurance methodology centers for the diagnosis of infectious diseases were implemented

Conclusions (2)

CAR QA/QC Program enables

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- Reliable HIV and Viral Hepatitis surveillance data in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan
- ID diagnosis test kits quality control implementation
- Monitoring and evaluation of HIV, Viral hepatitis programs in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan
- International Proficiency Testing Programs participation for modern laboratory QC process involvement

Recommendation

- **Sustainability of the QA programs in CAR could be achieved by:**
 - *Implementation of QA issuer (SOP, IQC) in each laboratory of laboratory service network*
 - *Conducting the regional and interregional EQC/PT program on the regular basis*
 - *Participation in the international EQC/PT program*
 - *Development of system of laboratory certification by policy changes in laboratory management and operations*